

REMARKS

1. Summary of the Office Action

In the Final Office action mailed October 31, 2006, the Examiner objected to claims 8, 13, 16, and 19-21, and rejected claims 1, 8, 13, 16, and 19 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Additionally, the Examiner rejected claims 1, 4-6, 8, 12-21, and 23 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) on grounds of obviousness based on U.S. Patent No. 5,223,827 (Bell), U.S. Patent No. 6,434,715 B1 (Andersen), and U.S. Patent No. 6,502,131 B1 (Vaid).

2. Status of the Claims

Applicant has cancelled claim 6, and amended claims 1, 8, 13, 16, 17, 19-21, and 23 to further clarify the claimed subject matter. Claims 1, 4, 5, 8, 12-21, and 23 are presently pending in this application. Of these claims, 1, 8, 21, and 23 are in independent format, and the rest are in dependent format.

Applicants have revised the claims to more clearly define what Applicants regard as their invention. In particular, the claims are directed to a system that excludes certain events (e.g., recurring events) from being displayed on an event log display. As such, the number of events displayed on the event log display is reduced, thereby improving readability of the event log display.

Each of claims 1 and 21 includes the function of “maintaining the event log display by excluding an indication of the event from the event log display when (i) the event corresponds to an already recurring event and (ii) the number of preceding equivalent events is greater than the predetermined number in the preceding time period.” Claim 8 includes the function of “responsive to determining that the event condition has

occurred more than the first predetermined number of times in the first preceding time period, preventing the received data relating to the event condition from being presented in the event log display to the user.” Additionally, claim 23 includes the function of “ignoring subsequent event conditions associated with recurring events as long as the event condition remains in a verified recurring state.”

3. Summary of the Prior Art

a. Bell

Bell discloses determining the occurrence of an event, and then determining if the number of events in a given time frame exceeds a threshold. If the threshold is exceeded, the system may then take an action. “Typically, this might be the generation of a message containing parameters of interest for this type of event and the transmission of the message” *See* Bell, col. 5, lines 48-51; col. 6, lines 39-42.

b. Andersen

Andersen discloses sending two messages: an event message, and a corresponding repeat event message. *See* Andersen, col. 3, lines 9-13; col. 3, lines 58-62. For event messages, these messages are sent when an event is detected. *Id.* Further, a given event message is sent regardless of whether the event is later determined to be a repeat event. *Id.* After the event message is sent, Andersen then determines whether the event is a repeat event. If determined to be a repeat event, a repeat event message is then sent.

Although there may be a limit as to the number of repeat event messages sent, Andersen discloses that an event message is sent when the event is detected, regardless of whether the repeat event message limit has been reached.

c. Vaid

Vaid discloses a method for monitoring the quality of service of information sources in a network of computers. *See* Vaid, Abstract. In particular, Vaid discloses sending alarms and notifications in the form of an SNMP message. *Id.* at col. 27, lines 52-55.

4. Response to Rejections

a. Response to 103 Rejection of Independent Claims 1 and 21

The Examiner rejected claims 1 and 21 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) on grounds of obviousness based on Bell, Andersen, and Vaid. According to M.P.E.P. § 2143, to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness of a claim over a combination of references, the Examiner must establish that the combination of references discloses each and every element of the claim. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection, because the combination of Bell, Andersen, and Vaid fails to disclose the element of “maintaining the event log display by excluding an indication of the event from the event log display when (i) the event corresponds to an already recurring event and (ii) the number of preceding equivalent events is greater than the predetermined number in the preceding time period.”

Bell fails to disclose “maintaining the event log display by excluding an indication of the event from the event log display when (i) the event corresponds to an already recurring event and (ii) the number of preceding equivalent events is greater than the predetermined number in the preceding time period.” As noted, when an event has been determined to occur beyond a threshold number, Bell discloses the “generation of a message containing parameters of interest for this type of event and the transmission of

the message” See Bell, col. 5, lines 48-51. As such, Bell fails to disclose “maintaining the event log display by excluding an indication of the event from the event log display when (i) the event corresponds to an already recurring event and (ii) the number of preceding equivalent events is greater than the predetermined number in the preceding time period.”

Further, Andersen not only fails to make up for this deficiency in Bell, but is also inapposite to the teaching of the claimed element. Andersen discloses sending an event message each time an event is detected, regardless of whether the event is determined to be a repeat event, and regardless of whether the limit has been reached for sending repeat event messages. In the portion cited by the Examiner, Andersen discloses limiting only the generation of the additional repeat event messages, but not the generation of event messages. As such, Andersen fails to disclose and is, in fact, inapposite to “maintaining the event log display by excluding an indication of the event from the event log display when (i) the event corresponds to an already recurring event and (ii) the number of preceding equivalent events is greater than the predetermined number in the preceding time period.”

Furthermore, Vaid fails to make up for the deficiency in Bell and Andersen. Although Vaid discloses sending notifications in the form of SNMP messages, Vaid fails to disclose “maintaining the event log display by excluding an indication of the event from the event log display when (i) the event corresponds to an already recurring event and (ii) the number of preceding equivalent events is greater than the predetermined number in the preceding time period.”

Given that the combination of Bell, Andersen, and Vaid fails to disclose “maintaining the event log display by excluding an indication of the event from the event log display when (i) the event corresponds to an already recurring event and (ii) the number of preceding equivalent events is greater than the predetermined number in the preceding time period,” a *prima facie* case of obviousness of the claims over the references does not exist. As such, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1 and 21 are in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration is requested.

b. Response to 103 Rejection of Independent Claim 8

The Examiner rejected claim 8 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) on grounds of obviousness based on Bell, Andersen, and Vaid. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection, because the combination of Bell, Andersen, and Vaid fails to disclose the element of “responsive to determining that the event condition has occurred more than the first predetermined number of times in the first preceding time period, preventing the received data relating to the event condition from being presented in the event log display to the user.”

As noted above, Bell discloses transmitting a message when the number of occurrences of an event exceeds a threshold. As such, Bell fails to disclose “responsive to determining that the event condition has occurred more than the first predetermined number of times in the first preceding time period, preventing the received data relating to the event condition from being presented in the event log display to the user.”

Further, Andersen fails to make up for this deficiency in Bell, and is also inapposite to the teaching of the claimed element. Since Andersen discloses sending an event message each time an event is detected, regardless of whether the event is

determined to be a repeat event, and regardless of whether the limit has been reached for sending repeat event messages, Andersen fails to disclose and is inapposite to “responsive to determining that the event condition has occurred more than the first predetermined number of times in the first preceding time period, preventing the received data relating to the event condition from being presented in the event log display to the user.”

Moreover, for the reasons stated above, Vaid fails to make up for this deficiency in Bell and Andersen. Given that the combination of Bell, Andersen, and Vaid fail to disclose “responsive to determining that the event condition has occurred more than the first predetermined number of times in the first preceding time period, preventing the received data relating to the event condition from being presented in the event log display to the user,” a *prima facie* case of obviousness of claim 8 over the combination of references does not exist. As such, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 8 is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration is requested.

c. Response to 103 Rejection of Independent Claim 23

The Examiner rejected claim 23 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) on grounds of obviousness based on Bell, Andersen, and Vaid. For the reasons set forth above, Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection, because the combination of Bell, Andersen, and Vaid fails to disclose the element of “ignoring subsequent event conditions associated with recurring events as long as the event condition remains in a verified recurring state.” As such, a *prima facie* case of obviousness of claim 23 over the combination of references does not exist. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 23 is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration is requested.

d. Response to 103 Rejection of Dependent Claims 4, 5, and 12-20

Without addressing the Examiner's statements regarding the pending dependent claims 4, 5, and 12-20, which are not conceded, Applicants point out that each of these claims depend from and incorporate the limitations from at least one of independent claims 1, 8, 21, and 23, which, as discussed above, are allowable over the cited art. Accordingly, claims 4, 5, and 12-20 are allowable for at least the reason that they each depend from an allowable claim. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the rejections of the pending dependent claims.

5. Conclusion

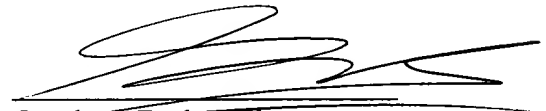
Applicants submit that the application is in good and proper form for allowance and respectfully request the Examiner to pass this application to issue. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at 312-913-3340.

Respectfully submitted,

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